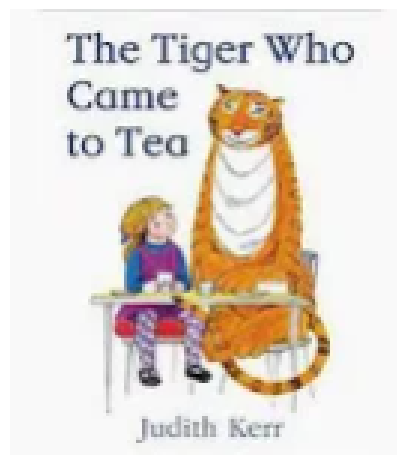




Curriculum Newsletter

Merlins

Spring 2025



Our Theme:

VIPs Of The Past

Our Christian Values:

Caring Commitment to Achieve Co-operation Fairness
Honesty Respect

Happy new year to you all. I hope you have enjoyed the Christmas holiday. The children have returned with a fantastic attitude towards their learning and we are excited about developing their skills and knowledge across the curriculum.

During this Spring Term, we will be learning about a range of exciting things. This commenced with our fun filled WOW day. Across the weeks, we endeavour to capture the children's interest and develop the children's wellbeing, subject knowledge and subject skills.

Spring Term 2025
<i>Our theme is 'VIPs Of The Past'</i>
<i>On our WOW day will dress up as significant people of the past and share information with each other.</i>
<i>As part of our Exit day, there will be a class museums to share.</i>
School Christian Vision Link
<i>This topic is driven by our School Christian Vision, which aims to develop all members into wise, happy, and spiritually aware individuals who can achieve their dreams and goals. By exploring VIPs of the past, we hope to inspire our pupils to reach their own aspirations and make a positive impact on society as they grow older. This topic aligns with our commitment to nurturing their potential and preparing them for a brighter tomorrow.</i>

English

Reading

Reading is vital skill for children to learn. It feeds into every curriculum area. In English, we will have daily reading sessions. These aim to develop each child's ability to understand and discuss the language as well as what is happening in the text. This year, we are continuing with 'Reading Practice Sessions' for many of our pupils. These sessions will develop children's fluency and comprehension. The children in KS1 will work in smaller groups with some children participating in reading practice sessions and others in guided reading.

Writing

As a class, we will be reading a range of fiction and non-fiction books which link with our exciting topic of 'VIPs of the Past'. We will be using texts as our starting point for a range of writing, particularly narrative pieces. Our weekly English learning involves grammar, handwriting and writing all of which are developed and built on through the weeks in a curriculum design to help the children develop in their learning from their starting point. Our written work will continue to focus on the skill of writing in clear and interesting sentences and developing our basic grammar knowledge. We aim for the children to write for longer periods and use their Phonics in their writing. Their vocabulary, Phonics and writing skills will be helped massively by regular reading of the books supplied by school at home. We require the children to bring their reading record back to school every day so that we can continue to change books and check on their reading development. The children will be supplied with a Phonics book that is aimed to develop their fluency. Sometimes, the children will be supplied with our reading dog to read to! The children are asked to read at least four times a week with an adult and get their reading record signed each time. If this is done regularly, it is proven to have a very beneficial impact on learning.

Phonics and Spelling

Phonics continues to have great importance. We are continuing with our Federation scheme 'Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised'. The children will gain knowledge of a range of tricky words and graphemes through the weeks and will be encouraged to apply this knowledge to their written work. The children will be developing their skills of blending using know graphemes. Once the children have sound phonetical knowledge they will move onto Spelling sessions where a new rule is taught each week.

Mathematics

In Mathematics, this term, we will begin by developing our skills and knowledge of addition and subtraction of numbers. This will involve a range of equipment to help the children grasp a full understanding of the process. We will then extend our knowledge of place value which will lead us into developing our division and multiplication.

History

In our History learning, the knowledge we aim to gather is about significant people of the past and how they made a difference within the world. This will involve developing knowledge of amazing people such as Florence Nightingale, Rosa Parks, Emily Davison, previous queens and others too!
In addition, we will be developing our History skills by using artefacts and pictures. We want our children think like historians and develop skills of how to use questioning to learn about the past.
Much of our History learning will be linked with our writing driver Little People Big Dreams: Rosa Parks as well as other fiction and non-fiction books.

R.E

Our topic in RE this term is learning about the Islamic faith. This involves gaining knowledge about the different Islamic festivals and developing our knowledge of mosques.

PSHE/Wellbeing

The wellbeing of the children is extremely important and as a class we will be learning from a carefully planned out wellbeing programme. Our PSHE units will be with 'Dreams and Goals' where the children will develop their skill of understanding of creating targets and aspirations for themselves.
This will be followed by the unit 'Healthy Me' where the children will develop skills and knowledge about keeping themselves fit and healthy!

Art

As part of our broad and balanced curriculum, we will be developing our skills of drawing portraits. We aim to develop our knowledge of famous artists such as Amrita Sher-Gil.

P.E

Our PE topics, this term, will be Gymnastics and Dance. I am sure the children will love developing the skills using the school equipment in Gymnastics.

Music

In music we will learning about tempo and developing our singing skills by learning the friendship song.

Important Information

Reading

Please listen to your child read as regularly as you can. Reading is a vital life skills and support at home can make a massive difference to academic progress.

In Key Stage One, we endeavour to change your child's reading book twice a week. The children are asked to read four times a week and this will have a huge benefit on all their learning.

Please can we ask that you aim to read your child's scheme books with them at least three times, before they are changed, to support with retention, particularly with Phonics. Research suggests that this also strongly improves fluency.

Your child's books will be linked with the children's Phonics knowledge for you to practise at home.

When reading a book three times with your child, please use the following structure:

Read 1: Read to your child

Read 2: Your child reads to you

Read 3: Ask questions about the text

In addition to the scheme books, the children will have a reading for pleasure book. Please read this to your child and enjoy these books together.

Our Class Readers for Spring Term



Key Reminders

Children need a named water bottle in school every day. Please can we ask that you write your child's name in all their belongings particularly school jumpers.

Homework will be set on **Friday** and returned on **Thursday**. Homework is important part of consolidating the week's learning.

Our P.E days are: **Tuesday and Wednesday**. The children will need correct PE uniform for their PE days.

We are excited about the term ahead and all it has to offer.

Kind regards,

Miss Stones